

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 12, 18, 24-42 without prejudice, and add new claims 43-48.
1-12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) [The assembly of claim 12, further including] A trash can assembly, comprising:

a shell having four side walls that define a perimeter, the four side walls connected to each other to form an elongated configuration, the four side walls comprising a first side wall, a second side wall, a third side wall and a fourth side wall, with the first and third side walls being opposite and parallel to each other, and with the second and fourth side walls being opposite to each other;

wherein each side wall has a top edge, with the top edges of the side walls defining an open top for the shell;

a frame that is secured to the top edges of the side walls, the frame defining a perimeter;

wherein the first and third side walls are straight, and are longer than the second and fourth side walls;

wherein the fourth side wall is a straight rear wall;

a first elongated lid portion having a side edge hingedly coupled to the frame above the top edge of the first side wall;

a second elongated lid portion having a side edge hingedly coupled to the frame above the top edge of the third side wall; and

wherein the frame has an upper edge that has the same perimeter as the shell;

[, with the side edges of the lid portions hingedly coupled to the frame].

14. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the frame is made from a different material as the lid portions.

15. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the frame is made of plastic.

16. (Original) The assembly of claim 15, wherein the lid portions are made of metal.

17. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim [[12]] 13, wherein [[the inner edges of]] the lid portions have inner edges that define a center line for the open top of the shell.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 13:

wherein the frame defines a first elongated slot along the top edge of the first side wall within the perimeter of the frame, and a second elongated slot along the top edge of the third side wall within the perimeter of the frame; and

wherein each lid portion has a sleeve provided along its side edge, with the sleeve of the first lid portion received inside the first elongated slot to hingedly couple the first lid portion to the top edge of the first side wall, and the sleeve of the second lid portion received inside the second elongated slot to hingedly couple the second lid portion to the top edge of the third side wall.

20. (Currently Amended) A trash can assembly, comprising:

a shell having a linear top edge and a perimeter;

a frame that is secured to the linear top edge of the shell, the frame defining a perimeter, and an elongated slot along the linear top edge, with the slot being inwardly offset from the perimeter of the frame; and

an elongated lid portion having a side edge, with a sleeve provided along the side edge and received inside the elongated slot to hingedly couple the lid portion to the linear top edge of the shell;

wherein the frame has an upper edge that has the same perimeter as the shell.

21. (Original) The assembly of claim 20, wherein the frame is made from a different material as the lid portion.

22. (Original) The assembly of claim 20, wherein the frame is made of plastic.

23. (Original) The assembly of claim 22, wherein the lid portion is made of metal.

24-42. (Canceled).

43. (New) A trash can assembly, comprising:

a shell having a top end, a bottom end and four side walls that are connected to each other to form an elongated configuration, the four side walls comprising a first side wall, a second side wall, a third side wall and a fourth side wall, with the first and third side walls being opposite and parallel to each other, and with the second and fourth side walls being opposite to each other;

wherein each side wall has a top edge, with the top edges of the side walls defining an open top for the shell;

wherein the first and third side walls are longer than the second and fourth side walls;

a first elongated lid portion having an inner edge, and a side edge hingedly coupled to the top edge of the first side wall;

a second elongated lid portion having an inner edge, and a side edge hingedly coupled to the top edge of the third side wall;

a base attached to the bottom end of the shell;

a toe-kick recess positioned at least partially in the base; wherein the shell and the base are formed of different materials; and

a pedal bar positioned at least partially within the base, at least a portion of the pedal bar extending into the toe-kick recess.

44. (New) The assembly of claim 43, wherein each of the lid portions have approximately the same size and approximately the same dimensions.

45. (New) The assembly of claim 43, further including:

an inner liner positioned substantially within the shell;

wherein a region of minimum thickness of each of the lid portions is substantially less than the minimum distance between the inner liner and the outside surface of the shell.

46. (New) The assembly of claim 43, wherein each of the lid portions are actuated by the pedal bar to move between a substantially closed position in which each of the lid portions is predominantly horizontal, and to an opened position in which each of the lid portions is predominantly vertical.

47. (New) The assembly of claim 43, further including a motion dampening mechanism that decreases the closing speed of the lid portions.

48. (New) The assembly of claim 13, wherein each lid portion has an inner edge, with the inner edges positioned side-by-side when the lid portions cover the open top of the shell.